



Aruba's ONLY English newspaper

World Tourism Day 2025: Tourism and sustainable transformation



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LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

PROFESSIONAL COMPLIMENTARY PICTURES ON TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

SUNDAY:

MARRYBELL MADURO
SINGER
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

MONDAY:

ANDERSON BAHAMON
SINGER
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

TUESDAY:

JEAN PAUL
SAXOPHONIST
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY:

MAILLEYN ALVARADO
VIOLINIST
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

THURSDAY:

MARRYBELL MADURO
SINGER
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

FRIDAY:

MAILLEYN ALVARADO
VIOLINIST
7:00 TO 9:00 P.M.

SATURDAY:

RICKY THOMAS
GUITAR
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.



Happy Hour
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Trump's transportation department pulls trail and bike grants it deems 'hostile' to cars

By JEFF McMURRAY

Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — President Donald Trump's transportation department has been pulling back grants already announced for recreational trails and bicycle lanes, telling local officials their projects fail to promote road capacity or are "hostile to motor vehicles." The department recently sent letters to local governments in at least six states — Alabama, California, Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts and New Mexico — informing them it was withdrawing money awarded under the \$1.1 trillion infrastructure law former President Joe Biden signed in 2021.



A cyclist rides along the Cardinal Greenway in Muncie, Indiana, March 13, 2024.

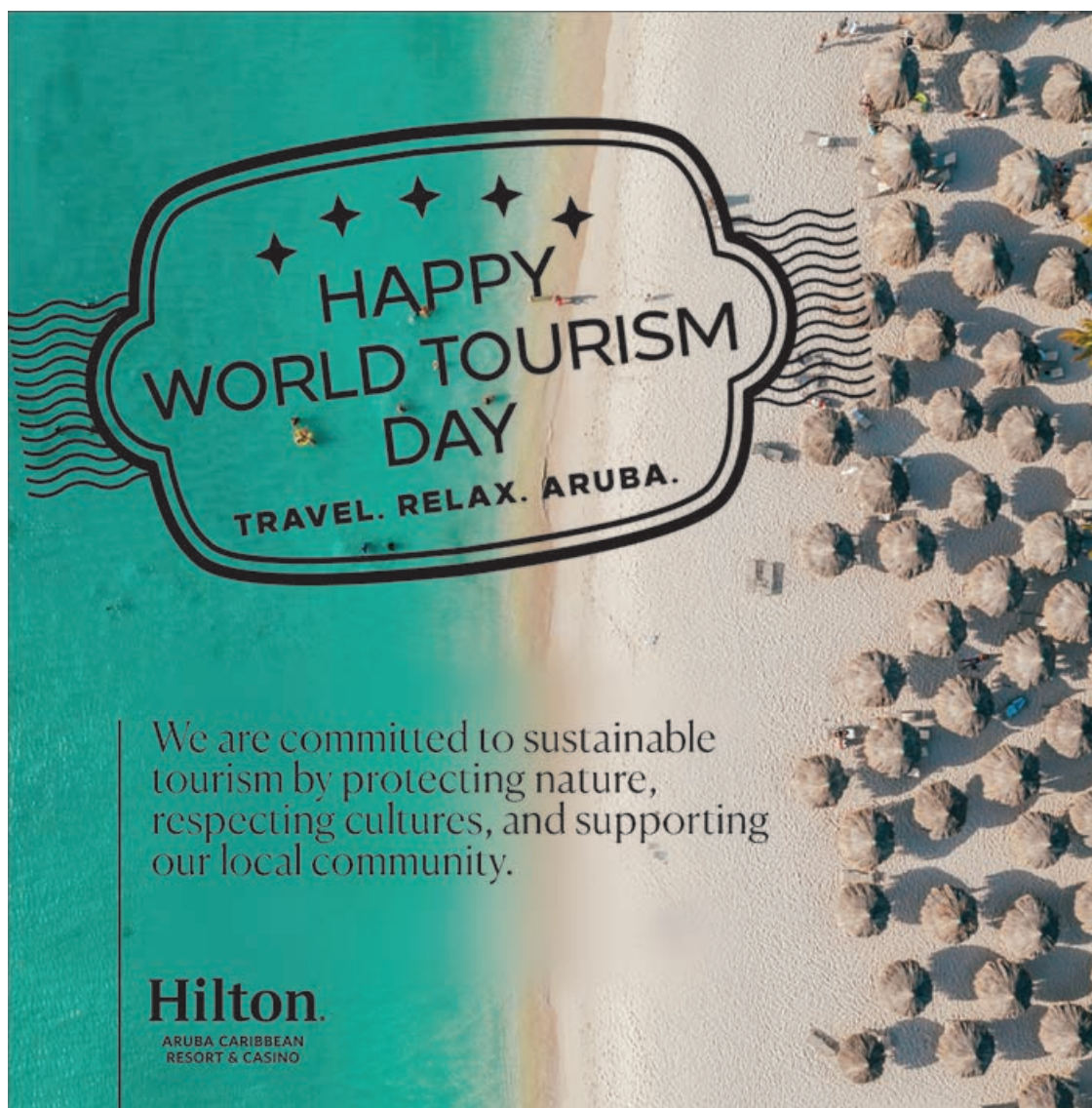
Associated Press

summer to help design segments of a 44-mile (71-kilometer) recreational trail connecting several communities along the Naugatuck River.

Rick Dunne, executive director of the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments, said the grant's final details were being negotiated when the U.S. Department of Transportation sent a letter this month to inform local officials that the project wouldn't move forward. The agency wants "multimodal grant programs" to focus on "projects that promote vehicular travel," the letter explained. "They're defining quality of life for Americans as enhancing automobile operations,"

Dunne said. The same reason was given in a letter sent to Albuquerque, New Mexico, pulling \$11.5 million in funding for a leg of a rail trail cutting through the city's core. It was among the first active transportation projects awarded under the infrastructure law, with funding announced in 2022, but it was still going through the approval process. "We are going to stand up for Albuquerque and prevent the Trump Administration from pulling money from a project the people of Albuquerque want," Mayor Tim Keller said in a press release. "We will see you in court."

Kevin Mills, vice president of policy for the Rails to Trails Conservancy, called the cuts "an affront to the priorities set by Congress and Americans' demands for safer, more convenient walking and biking routes." DOT also withdrew a \$20 million grant awarded in 2022 to transform three streetscapes in Boston. □



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ARUBA CARIBBEAN
RESORT & CASINO

The reversals are among the clearest signals yet of the drastic shift from the Biden administration's emphasis on alternative transportation, such as transit and biking, to the Trump administration's focus on preserving and expanding lanes for cars and trucks. While the new grants Trump's transportation department has announced this year reflect that change, it's practically unprecedented for an administration to claw back grants awarded by a predecessor without a compelling reason, such as potential environmental harms. However, the latest recalled projects didn't have fully funded grant agreements in place, which would have made reversing them far trickier. The transportation department's press office didn't respond to emails requesting comment. Prioritizing roads, not trails

Thune says a shutdown can still be avoided if Democrats 'dial back' their demands

By **MARY CLARE JALONICK**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Majority Leader John Thune is rejecting Democratic demands on health care as unserious but says a government shutdown is still "avoidable" despite sharp divisions ahead of Wednesday's funding deadline.

"I'm a big believer that there's always a way out," the South Dakota Republican said in an interview with The Associated Press on Thursday. "And I think there are off-ramps here, but I don't think that the negotiating position, at least at the moment, that the Democrats are trying to exert here is going to get you there."

Thune said Democrats are going to have to "dial back" their demands, which include immediately extending health insurance subsidies and reversing the health care policies in the massive tax bill that Republicans passed over the summer. Absent that, Thune said, "we're probably plunging forward toward the shutdown."

It's just the latest standoff in Washington over gov-



Senate Majority Leader John Thune, R-S.D., speaks during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Friday, Sept. 19, 2025.

Associated Press

ernment funding, stretching back through several administrations. President Donald Trump was the driving force behind the longest shutdown ever during his first term, as he sought money for a U.S.-Mexico border wall. This time it is Democrats who are making demands as they face intense pressure from their core supporters to stand

up to the Republican president and his policies. Democrats have shown little signs of relenting, just before spending runs out Wednesday. Their position remained the same even after the White House Office of Management and Budget on Wednesday released a memo that said agencies should consider a "reduction in force" for

many federal programs if the government closes meaning thousands of federal workers could be permanently laid off.

Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer of New York said the OMB memo was simply an "attempt at intimidation" and predicted the "unnecessary firings will either be overturned in court or the administration

will end up hiring the workers back."

Thune stopped short of criticizing the White House threat of mass layoffs, saying the situation remains "a hypothetical." Still, he said no one should be surprised by the memo as "everyone knows Russ Vought," the head of the Office of Management and Budget, and his longtime advocacy for slashing government.

"But it's all avoidable," Thune said. "And so if they don't want to go down that path, there's a way to avoid going down that path."

One way to avoid a shutdown, Thune said, would be for enough Democrats to vote with Republicans for a stripped-down "clean" bill to keep the government open for the next seven weeks while negotiations on spending continue. That's how Republicans avoided a shutdown in March, when Schumer and several other Democrats decided at the last minute to vote with Republicans to great political cost when Schumer's party then revolted. □

Census Bureau to test using postal workers as census takers in 2030 field trials next year

By **MIKE SCHNEIDER**
Associated Press

The Census Bureau plans to use U.S. postal workers as census takers in at least two locations during field tests next year for the 2030 census, which will determine political power and federal funding.

The statistical agency said Friday in a notice to be published next week that it will test and assess the feasibility of using postal carriers to knock on doors and collect information about households for the once-a-decade head count of every U.S. resident.

The field tests will be conducted next year in western Texas; tribal lands in Arizona; Colorado Springs, Colorado; western North Carolina; Spartanburg, South

Carolina; and Huntsville, Alabama. The unpublished Federal Register notice didn't say which locations would test postal workers as census-takers who interview people about the race, sex, age, type of housing and relationships in their households.

The idea of using postal workers as census takers during the U.S. head count, often described as the largest civilian mobilization in the nation, has been kicking around for some time, given the knowledge that postal workers often have of the neighborhoods where they deliver mail. In 2011, though, the U.S. Government Accounting Office said using postal carriers for the census at U.S. Postal Service pay wasn't

cost effective since, at the time, urban mail carriers were earning \$41 an hour compared to temporary census-taker pay of \$15 an hour.

"Because of the difference in pay rates and the large number of staff hours involved, it would not be practical for mail carriers to perform census duties in lieu of census workers because of the higher costs and disruption it would cause to U.S. mail service," the GAO report said. The U.S. Postal Service has helped out in other ways by delivering notices about the census' start and census questionnaires to households, as well as helping to update the bureau's address list.

The six 2026 test sites were

picked for a variety of reasons, including a desire to include rural areas where some residents don't receive mail or have little or no internet service; tribal

areas; dorms, care facilities or military barracks; fast-growing locations with new construction; and places with varying unemployment rates. □



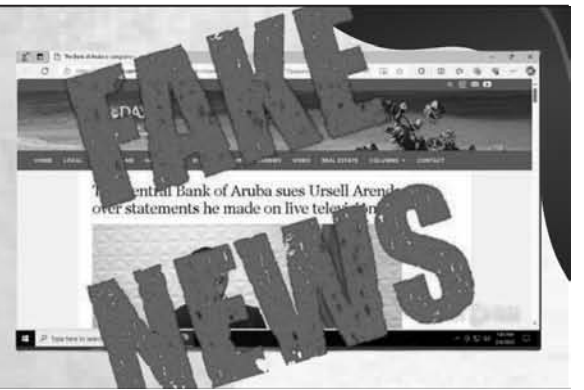
A United States Postal Service driver sits behind the wheel of a mail truck in Times Square, Nov. 21, 2024 in New York.

Associated Press

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Sara Jane Moore, who tried to assassinate President Gerald Ford in 1975, dies at 95

By TRAVIS LOLLER
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Sara Jane Moore, who was imprisoned for more than 30 years after she made an unsuccessful attempt to assassinate President Gerald Ford in 1975, has died. She was 95.

Moore died Wednesday at a nursing home in Franklin, Tennessee, according to Demetria Kalodimos, a longtime acquaintance who said she was informed by the executor of Moore's estate. Kalodimos is an executive producer at the Nashville Banner newspa-

per, which was first to report the death.

Moore seemed an unlikely candidate to gain national notoriety as a violent political radical who nearly killed a president. When she shot at Ford in San Francisco, she was a middle-aged woman who had begun dabbling in leftist groups and sometimes served as an FBI informant.

Sentenced to life, Moore was serving her time at the Federal Correctional Institution in Dublin, California, when she was unexpectedly paroled Dec. 31, 2007. Federal officials gave no

details on why she was set free. She lived largely anonymously in an undisclosed location after that, but in broadcast interviews she expressed regret for what she had done. She said she had been caught up in the radical political movements that were common in California in the mid-1970s.

"I had put blinders on, I really had, and I was listening to only ... what I thought I believed," she told San Francisco television station KGO in April 2009. "We thought that doing that would actually trigger a new revolution."

Moore was often confused with Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, a disciple of cult murderer Charles Manson who aimed a semi-automatic pistol at Ford in Sacramento, California, on Sept. 5, 1975. A Security Service agent grabbed the gun before any shots could be fired, and the president was unharmed.

Just 17 days later, on Sept. 22, Moore shot at Ford as he waved to a crowd outside the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco's Union Square. Oliver Sipple, a 33-year-old former Marine, knocked the .38-caliber pistol out of her hand as she fired, causing the shot to go astray and hit a building.

"I'm sorry I missed," Moore said during an interview with the San Jose Mercury News seven years later. "Yes, I'm sorry I missed. I don't like to be a failure."

But in later interviews, before and after her release, she repeatedly said that she regretted her actions, saying she was convinced that the government had declared war on the left.

Asked by KGO in 2009 what she would say to Ford if that

had been possible, she replied that she would tell him, "I'm very sorry that it happened. ... I'm very happy that I did not succeed." Ford died in 2006, about a year before her release. Her family did not publicly comment on her death. Geri Spieler, who wrote a biography of Moore titled "Housewife Assassin," said she had abandoned her children and was estranged from all her living relatives.

Moore was born Sara Jane Kahn on Feb. 15, 1930, in Charleston, West Virginia. Her confusing background, which included multiple failed marriages, name changes and involvement with both leftist political groups and the FBI, baffled the public and even her own defense attorney during her trial.

"I never got a satisfactory answer from her as to why she did it," retired federal public defender James F. Hewitt once said. "There was just bizarre stuff, and she would never tell anyone anything about her background."

Ford insisted that the two attempts on his life should not prevent him from having contact with the people, saying, "If we can't have the opportunity of talking with one another, seeing one another, shaking hands with one another, something has gone wrong in our society."

His other attacker, Fromme, also was freed from prison eventually. She had no comment as she left a federal lockup in Texas in August 2009 at age 60.

It was in 1974 that Moore began working for People in Need, a free food program for the poor established by millionaire Randolph Hearst

as ransom after his daughter Patty was kidnapped by the radical Symbionese Liberation Army.

Moore soon became involved with leftists, ex-convicts and other members of San Francisco's counter-culture. At this time, she became an FBI informant.

Moore said she shot at Ford because she thought she would be killed once it was disclosed that she was an FBI informant. The agency ended its relationship with her about four months before the shooting.

"I was going to go down anyway," she said in the 1982 interview with the San Jose Mercury News. "And if I was going to go down, I was going to do it my way. If the government was going to kill me, I was going to make some kind of statement."

Moore was sent to a West Virginia women's prison in 1977. Two years later she escaped but was captured several hours later.

She was later transferred to a prison in Pleasanton, California, before going to Dublin.

In 2000 she sued the warden of her federal prison to prevent him from taking keys given to inmates to lock themselves in as a security measure.

In an interview after the July 2024 assassination attempt on President Donald Trump, Moore told the Nashville Banner that part of what motivated her was that Ford, who became president after Richard Nixon resigned, was not elected president.

"He wasn't elected to anything. He was appointed," Moore said. "It wasn't a belief, it was a fact. It was a fact that he was appointed." □



Sara Jane Moore, the woman who fired a gun at President Gerald Ford in 1975 and spent the next 32 years in prison, is interviewed on the NBC "Today" television program in New York, May 28, 2009.

Associated Press

U.N. Security Council rejects Russia and China's last-ditch effort to delay sanctions on Iran

By FARNOUSH AMIRI and
STEPHANIE LIECHTENSTEIN

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

The U.N. Security Council on Friday rejected another last-ditch effort to delay the reimposition of sanctions on Iran a day before the deadline after Western countries claimed that weeks of meeting with officials failed to result in a "concrete" agreement.

It comes a day before a series of U.N. "snapback" sanctions are set to take effect as outlined in Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers.

That would again freeze Iranian assets abroad, halt arms deals with Tehran and penalize any development of Iran's ballistic missile program, among other measures, further squeezing the country's reeling economy. The last-ditch effort by Iran's few and closest allies is unlikely to garner enough support to pass the 15-member council. It comes a day before a series of U.N. sanctions are set to take effect as outlined in Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers. That would again freeze Iranian assets abroad, halt arms



Masoud Pezeshkian, the President of Iran, signs a note in a United Nations book during the U.N. General Assembly at United Nations headquarters, Thursday, Sept. 25, 2025.

Associated Press

deals with Tehran and penalize any development of Iran's ballistic missile program, among other measures, further squeezing the country's reeling economy. Britain, Germany and France, known as the E3, triggered the so-called "snapback" mechanism last month after accusing Tehran of failing to comply with the conditions of the accord and when weeks

of high-level negotiations failed to reach a diplomatic resolution.

Since the 30-day clock began, Iran's foreign minister, Abbas Araghchi, has been meeting with his French, British and German counterparts to strike a last-minute deal, leading up to this week's U.N. General Assembly gathering. But those talks appeared futile, with one European diplo-

mat telling the Associated Press on Wednesday that they "did not produce any new developments, any new results."

Therefore, European sources "expect that the snapback procedure will continue as planned."

Even before Araghchi and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian arrived in New York on Tuesday for the annual gathering, remarks

from Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, that peace talks with the U.S. represent "a sheer dead end" constrained any eleventh-hour diplomatic efforts from taking place.

Iranian officials have defended their position over the last several weeks, saying that they've put forward "multiple proposals to keep the window for diplomacy open." On Friday, Araghchi said in a social media post that "the E3 has failed to reciprocate" efforts, "while the U.S. has doubled down on its dictates." He urged the Security Council to vote in favor of an extension to provide the "time and space for diplomacy."

European nations have said they would be willing to extend the deadline if Iran complies with a series of conditions. Those include resumption of direct negotiations with the U.S. over its nuclear program, allowing U.N. nuclear inspectors access to its nuclear sites, and accounts for the more than 400 kilograms (880 pounds) of highly enriched uranium the U.N. watchdog says it has. □

China investigates Mexican tariffs on imports from Asia as trade tensions escalate

BEIJING (AP) — China has opened an investigation into whether import tariffs being imposed by Mexico are a trade and investment barrier.

Mexico plans to impose taxes as high as 50% on more than 1,400 products from Asia to protect factories at home, which are facing stiff tariffs imposed by U.S. President Donald Trump on exports to the United States.

A Chinese Commerce Ministry statement posted Thursday said the tariffs would harm the interests of affected countries.

"China believes that, against the backdrop of the current U.S. abuse of tariffs, all countries should

jointly oppose all forms of unilateralism and protectionism and must not sacrifice the interests of third parties because of coercion," the statement said. China's Commerce Ministry also announced Thursday that it was launching an anti-dumping investigation into pecans imported from Mexico and the United States.

Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum denied Friday that Mexico's tariffs had raised commercial tensions with China. She said that Economy Secretary Marcelo Ebrard had proposed creating a "high-level working group" to facilitate dialogue on the topic at a meeting with

the Chinese ambassador to Mexico on Thursday.

Sheinbaum voiced support for that dialogue Friday, so that Chinese authorities "understand the situation" and her administration's decision to increase domestic production and consumption.

Mexico has been under pressure from the Trump administration to limit Chinese imports, some of which the U.S. says use Mexico as a backdoor to the American market.

Sheinbaum has said that the tariffs are not the result of U.S. pressure.

China will be the most affected as Mexico imported \$130 billion worth of products from the coun-

try in 2024, second only to what Mexico bought from the United States. Other countries hit will include South Korea, Thailand, India, Philippines and In-

donesia. It's not clear if the investigation into the Mexican tariffs would result in any concrete steps against Mexico. □



Chinese products are seen in a supermarket in downtown Mexico City, July 24, 2024.

Associated Press

European defense ministers agree to press on with 'drone wall' project as airspace violations mount

By LORNE COOK

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — European defense ministers agreed on Friday to develop a "drone wall" along their borders with Russia and Ukraine to better detect, track and intercept drones violating Europe's airspace. The decision comes after a spate of incidents in which Europe's borders and airports have been tested by rogue drones. Russia has been blamed for some of them but denies that anything was done on purpose or that it played a role.

"Russia is testing the EU and NATO, and our response must be firm, united and immediate," EU Defense Commissioner Andrius Kubilius said after chairing a virtual meeting of 10 countries on Europe's eastern flank. Ukrainian and NATO officials also took part in the talks.

Kubilius said the drone shield could take a year to build, and that envoys from the countries would meet soon to develop "a detailed conceptual and technical roadmap" on the way ahead. The top priority is an "effective detection system," he said.



EU Commissioner for Defence and Space, Lithuanian Andrius Kubilius, right and Finnish Defence Minister Antti Hakkanen take part in a press conference, at the Ministry of Defence in Helsinki, Finland, Friday, Sept. 26, 2025.

The drone wall is likely to be discussed by EU leaders at a summit in Copenhagen next week, and later again in October when they meet in Brussels. Kubilius said that Europe's defense industry would also be brought on-board.

"Today's meeting was a milestone — now we focus on delivery," he said.

Finland, Estonia, Latvia,

Lithuania and Poland have been working on a drone wall project, but in March, the European Commission, the EU's executive branch, rejected a joint Estonia-Lithuania request for funds to set one up.

Things have changed this month, though.

NATO jets scrambled on Sept. 10 to shoot down a number of Russian drones

that breached Polish airspace, in an expensive response to a relatively cheap threat. Airports in Denmark were temporarily closed this week after drones were flown nearby. "The hybrid war is ongoing and all countries in the European Union will experience it," Polish Defense Minister Wladyslaw Kosiniak-Kamysz told reporters

in Warsaw after the drone wall talks. "The threat from the Russian Federation is serious. We must respond to it in a very radical manner." He urged all EU partners to get involved in the project, saying that the incidents at Danish airports in recent days made it clear that "the threat is not only to the eastern flank, that the launch of drones may occur from a ship or vessel that is nearby."

On Thursday, in a social media post addressed to the nation, Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen said the drone incidents in her country were part of a new reality facing Europe, in which hybrid attacks were fiercer and more frequent.

She said that Danish authorities still have not determined who was behind the incidents, but that Russia was currently the primary threat to European security. Neighboring Sweden has offered to loan Denmark a military anti-drone system ahead of the two summits involving dozens of EU leaders in Copenhagen next week, Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson told broadcaster TV4. □

Associated Press

Hong Kong lawmakers pass bill to ban substandard tiny apartments

By KANIS LEUNG

Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — Hong Kong lawmakers passed a bill Friday mandating a minimum size, an exclusive bathroom and other standards in subdivided apartments a common living arrangement in one of the world's least affordable cities. About 220,000 people live in dwellings created by dividing regular apartments, including migrants, workers, students and young professionals. Some of the spaces have a toilet bowl next to the cooking area, no bathroom sink or washroom shared among neighbors. Beijing, which sees the city's housing problems as a driver of the 2019 anti-government

protests, wants it to phase out subdivided apartments by 2049. Housing Secretary Winnie Ho said it was painful to see people living in substandard conditions

and these sufferings should not occur in Hong Kong.

Legislators passed the bill by a show of hands after hours of debate.

About one-fourth of the



A resident who gave his name as Cheung watches television at his subdivided flat in Sham Shui Po district of Hong Kong, Feb. 6, 2025.

Associated Press

city's 110,000 existing subdivided homes are less than 8 square meters (86 square feet), the new minimum size mandated. By comparison, the standard size of a parking space in the city is 10 square meters (110 square feet). The median monthly rent for a unit was 5,000 Hong Kong dollars (\$640). An estimated 33,000 units, or 30% of the existing subdivided apartments, would need major renovations to meet the new requirements, and the others would need simpler improvements.

Among other conditions, each living unit must have at least one openable window, exclusive fire detectors and an enclosed toilet area with a door separat-

ing it from the rest of the apartment.

Landlords will have a grace period to renovate substandard homes and eventually can only rent out those that are recognized as meeting the standards. Violations could lead to up to a fine of 300,000 Hong Kong dollars (about \$38,500) and three years of imprisonment, along with a daily fine for ongoing offenses. The authorities planned to roll out a registration scheme next March.

Low-income residents have expressed concerns about their future under the new rules, worrying about a surge in rent and the challenges of finding a new home if their apartments fail to meet the bar. □

World Tourism Day 2025: Tourism and sustainable transformation

ORANJESTAD – Today we celebrate World Tourism Day! As a tourism-dependent island, we want to start by thanking our guests for choosing to visit and love our One Happy Island. Since Aruba started developing its tourism industry in the 1950s, with a more focused effort at the end of the '80s, we have been building a unique way of life together with Aruba's visitors.

According to the Aruba Tourism Authority, it was in 1947 when the Aruba Tourist Commission was established to promote and direct tourism to the island. IN 1953, the commission officially became the Aruba Tourist Board, with only two employees. "By 1984, tourism was a well-developed sector of the Aruban economy, second only to the oil-refining industry in terms of its contribution to the gross domestic product," according to A.T.A. "In 1985, the closing of the oil refinery, resulting from declining market value and cutbacks in the supply of Venezuelan oil, had a great impact on the Aruban economy. In 1986, Aruba achieved its Status Aparte, withdrawing from the Netherlands Antilles and becoming an autonomous entity within the Kingdom of the Netherlands. It was within this context that tourism took over as the strongest economic force of Aruba."

The theme of this year's World Tourism Day is "Tourism and Sustainable Transformation."

Those who have been visiting Aruba for a long time have seen it develop and transform throughout the years. In some aspects, development pushed certain important interests to the side – like nature conservation, social cohesion and the well-being of the local population – In favor of strengthening the economic pillar of the island.

In recent years, this lack of balance has come to the forefront, with nature and civil society organizations calling on the local authori-



ties to adapt tourism policy to match the wishes of the Aruban population. Most Arubans treasure our tourism industry as our main economic pillar, and also as a way to connect and interact with the rest of the world. However, the popularity of the island came with the downside of "mass tourism," overcrowding favorite spots and gentrifying a few others.

Meanwhile, authorities are struggling to balance the economic and social needs of the island. While attempting to build more sustainably, they are falling short in regulation and enforcement to truly protect our fragile ecosystems. An ongoing issue is for example the ATV/UTV tours. Many locals have expressed displeasure with these tours, as they disrupt daily life in residential zones and put enormous pressure on fragile flora and fauna. Another example is access to the beach. In Aruba, all beaches are public – even those in front of hotels – which means that locals (and visitors!) have free access to any beach. However in practice, overcrowding and gray areas mean that locals have less room to enjoy. For example, while the beach is public, any chairs or palapas on the beach are private property of the hotels. This means that locals cannot use the beach if there is no space free of chairs or palapas, which sometimes results in uncomfortable or awkward situations.

In 2023, local activist Ni-

gel Maduro turned heads when he started a graffiti campaign with the slogan, "No More Hotels." In an interview, Maduro said that his activism was inspired by three events which made him realize the damage that was being done to the

ecosystems and oceans of his childhood, and what he considers the "unjust treatment" locals receive when trying to access Aruba's nature. "These were my roots," he said. "And they just disappeared."

His actions were polarizing, but started a very important conversation for Aruba: How can we keep our economic development depending on tourism, while protecting our island, nature and way of life for the future generations?

In the meantime, the tourism industry itself is starting some campaigns to try to alleviate the tension. A.T.A. is encouraging our guests to focus on sustainability and respect for nature and the local way of life during their stay in our island, with promotional campaigns like the movie, "When You Love Aruba, It Loves You Back." For now, we can hope Aruba will manage to strike that golden balance between economic development and sustainability. □

The strength of Aruba is its people who bring life, value, and passion to our cherished and protected island.

Thanks to the efforts of ALL who loves of Aruba.

Happy Tourism Day!

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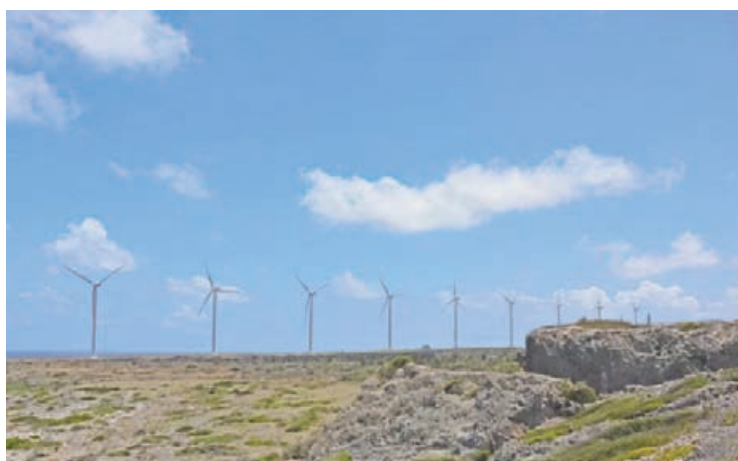
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Fusion Restaurant, Tapas, Wine & Piano Bar

Place names in San Nicolas and their origins

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever taking a tour of Aruba, San Nicolas would definitely be on your itinerary. From relaxing on the white, sandy beaches of Baby and Roger's Beach, to exploring the prehistoric caves of Quadirikiri and Fontein, you are taking in a full view of what San Nicolas has to offer. But did you know that you are also passing through areas whose names have historical origins? Here are a few place names in San Nicolas and their origin story.

Sero Colorado

On your way to Baby or Roger's Beach, you'll pass by the famous Red Anchor at what was once the entrance to the Colony residential community and be greeted with red soiled hills by the coast. This is Sero



Colorado. Named after the 30-meter, deep red, limestone hill, "Sero Colorado" translates to "Colored Hill". Sero Colorado has deep historical ties with the once-thriving phosphate industry in the area. Matter of fact, there are still underground shafts and passages deep in Sero Colorado from the time of phosphate mining. In 1958, the refinery at the time, Lago, adopted this

name for the residential section of its employees.

Vader Piet

Another well visited area, Vader Piet is located in the Arikok National Park. Recognizable sites within this area includes the Wind Mills and the Quadirikiri Cave. The origin of this name is part historical and speculation, as there are slight deviations from what actually

happened.

In 1829, Pieter Lampe was a planter and the person responsible for governing this remote area. As the story goes, Pieter was well known and beloved for his kindness and good treatment of his employees, and was therefore also called Vader Piet (Father Piet). However, he was tragically murdered—some speculate at the hands of a slave. For his work and good heart, the area was named after him.

San Nicolas

Of course we can't forget San Nicolas itself. Much like Vader Piet, the origin of the name San Nicolas has so far two different accounts. In the literal sense, "San Nicolas" translates to "Saint Nicolas", leading many to believe that this

district was named after a Spanish saint. Though one account does support this with the theory that the district was named after the saint by Spanish colonizers, the other account is much less divine, but does refer to an influential figure in the area.

Nicolaas van der Biest was a successful landowner during the time of the phosphate boom in late 19th century Aruba. Back then, landowners (most, if not all of them men) were referred to as "Shon" by their subordinates. So, the district was originally named after Shon Nicolaas. Over time, the name evolved into what is now San Nicolas. □

Source: "Aruba: Short History" by Dr. J. Hartog.

Why You Should Not Miss Aruba's Free City Center Street Car Tour

(Oranjestad)—Aruba's City Center Street Car – or as we call it in Dutch; "Tram van Oranjestad" – is a single track tram line in Oranjestad, the capital city of Aruba. It was inaugurated on 22 December 2012, being the first and so far the only passenger rail service on Aruba and the rest of the Dutch Caribbean. There are two trolleys, a single-deck one with 42 seats and a double-decker with 64 seats. The line was inspired by the popular battery-powered streetcar operation at the Grove in Los Angeles, USA. Aruba's streetcars are powered by hydrogen fuel cells, which

are charged by the island's year-round trade winds.

Caya Betico Croes, mostly referred to as our "main street" has been developed into a pollution-free pedestrian mall. The double-decker offers you a 360 degree view of the downtown area with a picture perfect scenery of the island's clear blue skies. Who would not enjoy a ride on this beautiful and naturally air-conditioned vehicle? The tour consists of a total of 9 stops approximately 200 meters apart from each other; all stops are clearly marked. The tram will bring you close to different mu-

seums, historical plazas, monuments, the Protestant church, Aruba's high-end mall, retail shops, and a variety of local and international cuisine restaurants. The "I love Aruba" trademark also belongs to that list. The third stop on the route is close to a 5-minute walk to the famous Renaissance Marina showcasing luxurious yachts and Aruba's blue waters.

The "Tram van Oranjestad" starts from a balloon loop near the Port of Call and serves the downtown area and ends at Plaza Nicky. The first ride starts at 10:00 am sharp with intervals of

25minutes. The last trolley departs from the cruise port at 5:00 pm. Don't miss this

tour of the beautiful Aruba's City Center – it is free for all! □



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Another Treasure of Aruba's Beaches: Sea Glass!

It is hard to imagine this happening today, but years ago people dumped all kinds of refuse straight into the ocean, including old cars, and their household garbage, which of course included lots of glass. Over the next 30 years the pounding waves cleaned the beach, by breaking down everything but glass and pottery. The pounding waves washed the trash up and down, back and forth. Tons of polished, broken glass pieces were created by the pounding surf. These smoothened, colored glass particles then settled along the sea shore in millions, and that is why you can find these beautiful and colorful pieces on the north shore beaches of Aruba.

Especially on the strip on white sand between the famous Natural Bridge" and the huge red anchor close to "Grapefield" beach you will be able to find your own pieces of sea glass. The sea glass that was created is the product of a very long and interesting process.

It can take anywhere from 10 to 30 years to make sea glass.

The name for any piece of glass that finds its way to the ocean and tumbles around in the water long enough is "Sea glass."

The colorful pieces of glass are being used for decoration, handcrafts and jewelry!

Once glass makes its way into the ocean, the glass is

broken up into shards and is tumbled around in the water, where sand and other rocks act like sandpaper to smooth out its rough edges.

Sometimes as the sea glass is passed through fire, it becomes fire glass, the rarest of sea glass with certain inclusions, just like precious gems.

For years, the water beat against the different kinds of trash being dumped. Glass, household appliances and even motor parts were discarded on the beach. The waves and weather conditions wore down the overwhelming amount of garbage in the water, creating millions of beautiful smooth rocks.

It's hard to believe the short-sighted mistakes we were making that could have potentially ruined these beautiful beaches. But thanks to natural processes, the ocean transformed the trash into the sea glass.

Each colored gem on the beach has its own story.

The ruby red glass stones are typically from old car tail-lights.

Then, the sapphire rocks are the remnants of broken apothecary bottles. The most common and the easiest to find are the brown (Amstel & Polar beer), green (Heineken & Balashi beer) and clear glass which are the soft much loved "soft drink" bottles.

If you like to see the sea glass for yourself, and be in awe of the power of nature, rent a car or jeep and go explore our deserted beaches on the north side of the island. Make it a fun family day!

Even if we didn't mean to pollute the Beaches how we did, it is inspiring to see just how the earth can correct our mistakes.

Funny, how trash can change into treasures!



Everybody knows that you are not allowed to take local shells home, but the people working at the airport have no problem you taking sea glass home. A few of those pieces make great souvenirs. You can

place them in a wine glass or large bottle for decoration and every time you look at it a smile will light up your face thinking back of your unforgettable Aruba vacation! ☐

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Up for a snorkeling adventure in Aruba? Top 3 shipwrecks to explore



(ORANJESTAD) – Aruba is not only the perfect vacation destination to sit back and relax on the sandy beaches but also has great snorkeling spots for passionate adventurers to explore. On the coast of the island, there are various shipwrecks that have become fan-favorites over the years. Here are the top 3 shipwrecks you should explore.

SS Antilla

Dubbed "The Ghost Ship", SS Antilla is the biggest and most visited shipwreck site off the coast of the island. Located in Malmok, this 400-foot ship's story is one of capture and sabotage during WWII.

After Germany invaded The Netherlands, Dutch authorities ordered the confinement of the ship's German crew, who were ported in Aruba because it needed to find a neutral port. The Dutch ordered the ship to be confiscated, but the German crew had other plans. Taking advantage of a delay caused by an anticipated armed resistance, the Germans started scuttling the ship, opening her seacock and setting her ablaze.

Eventually, the crew was arrested, but SS Antilla could not be saved by the Dutch forces. The Dutch fired two rounds of their 35mm gun aboard the 'Aruba' at SS Antilla and left her to sink.

The shipwreck can only be reached by boat. The ship is visible from the surface and during your snorkeling trip you'll be surrounded by hundreds of tropical fishes, but the shipwreck alone is already impressive enough.

SS Pedernales

Like the Antilla, the story of SS Pedernales dates to WWII. Pedernales was used as a lake tanker between Venezuela and Aruba, and sailed under British Flag. At this time, The US and Britain were using Aruba and Curaçao as fuel stations for the war ships.

Under operation Neuland (disruption of British and American oil sources), Germany fleets bombed Pedernales. The ship was later cut into three sections, two of which were taken to the US for reconstruction. The remaining part stayed in Aruba and was used as target practice. Eventu-

ally, the ship became a snorkeling site that has attracted many visitors throughout the years.

Pedernales lies on the north-west coast of Aruba, and is no more than 10 feet under water, making it an ideal site for snorkelers and divers of all levels.

Jane Sea Wreck

The Jane Sea Wreck lies near Palm Island at 100 feet underwater. Jane's story is heavily speculated, making her origin a tale of legends.

Launched in 1959, the 190-foot ship was initially called "Blackthorn". Her last owner, S&D Shipping Ltd. named her Jane Sea. Jane was a cement freighter between Venezuela and Aruba.

The story goes that the Jane Sea arrived one day at the Barcadera Harbor, where Aruban customs discovered several tons of cocaine. The ship was confiscated and petitioned went out for her owner to claim her. However, several years went by and no one came forward to claim the ship, so dive operators decided to sink her as an artificial reef. This happened in 1988. Jane Sea earned the nick name Jane C, because of the illicit white powder discovered on board.

Jane is now beautifully overgrown with coral and is home to a diverse set of marine life, like turtles, octopus, crabs and sometimes even nurse sharks.

The stories behind these shipwrecks enriches their exploration and offers snorkelers and divers a glance into the past, as well as the beautiful marine life that have molded these wrecks into their home. So, grab your equipment and discover another side of what Aruba has to offer!

We highly recommend you embark on your adventure with the guide of a professional and be sure to take of yourself and Aruba's precious nature. □

Aruba's Nature is to be Cherished

The national park Arikok comprises almost 18 % of the island. Its rugged terrain, desert-like hills filled with tall cacti, breathtaking coastline and protected local flora and fauna welcome you to be explored. There is numerous wildlife to discover like for example the sea turtle who lays his eggs on the park's beaches. There are more places on the island that are a preserved area like the Bubali Plas which is a bird sanctuary.

The national park Arikok takes you on a memorable journey of the island's past offering unique geological, cultural and historical sites. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities is available.

Did you know that four of the in total seven species of sea turtle lay their eggs

on Aruba's beaches? In the national park, a Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) keeps a strict eye on a very special event taking place below on the beach: a majestic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) heads back to sea after laying her eggs, while another nest laid 2 months ago by the same female hatches. A very rare occurrence of daytime nesting and hatching. Sea turtles prefer nesting in the cool and dark hours of the night. And hatchlings usually wait for the cue of cooling surface sand before emerging.



Bubali Magic

This beautiful close-up image of the pink bird is courtesy of Michiel Oversteegen of the Aruba Birdlife Conservation. This important foundation showcases and builds awareness of Aruba's birds and other native flora and fauna. You may have seen a 'pink cloud' lately at the Bubali or Spanish Lagoon Wetlands areas? It's most likely to be Roseate Spoonbills (*Ajaia ajaja*) or 'Chucharon Cora' as they are known in Papiamentu. This unusual looking bird forages in shallow muddy water while sweeping its flattened bill



from side to side to catch small fish, crustaceans and other aquatic invertebrates. The Roseate Spoonbill remains an uncommon sight as they are vulnerable to degradation of feeding and nesting habitats (Wetlands). (Source: arikok national park)

The affore mentioned is just a part of what Aruba's nature has to offer. We cannot stress enough to go, see for yourself. The island has the most beautiful beaches but it is also worthwhile to go beyond this and get an idea of our entire island. Lately there is a discussion

going on about the effect certain activities have on our nature, for example the ATV vehicles cause a lot of dust, noise and leave tire tracks. Animals live in these areas where the vehicles run, often with high speed and with detrimental consequences to flora and fauna. Motorized vehicles are forbidden to drive on the sand dunes in the Northern part of the island and all beaches in Aruba are forbidden for any motorized vehicle. Treasure our island to enjoy it like you do: as a tropical and natural paradise. We truly appreciate it! □

Planning on snorkeling? Get to know our "Dorado"

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever planning on snorkeling during your vacation on Aruba, you may spot fish that you can't recognize. One of these may be the "Dorado", a common fish that swims all year long in the waters of Aruba. Here's some information about the beloved Dorado.

Dorado has many different names it can be referred to. Dral, Dorao, Drals, Drado, are some of them in Papiamentu. In English, it is also called Mahi Mahi, Dolphinfish, or Dorado. It's a good example to reflect on why there can be many names. The same fish becomes known by different common names, why? Common names come only when a group of people, to understand each other, assign a name to a fish. Mahi Mahi, for example, comes from Hawaii and means "very strong". Dorado is based on Spanish and refers to the golden yellow color that the fish shines with under the sun.



Why it's called Dolphinfish in English is not well defined and while there are several stories around this, none have been confirmed. Dorado is found in all tropical to subtropical oceans around the world. Dorado is very popular both for recreational fishing and for consumption. It is known among fishermen as an

exciting catch and a fish that puts up a good fight. Its meat is very good for consumption and it is also commercially fished for that reason.

They grow very fast, up to 2.7 inches (almost 7 cm) per week. They can live up to a maximum of 5 years although very few reach that

age. Most become adults within 1 year but many become reproductive after just 5 or 6 months and reproduce very quickly too. They live in open water on the surface most of the time. Many fish seek them around sushi lines or floating objects on the sea. Often you will find a group landing together and if you

keep a male on the line, often the others will stay close or can keep the group interested by giving shrimp or squid.

Description:

Dorado has a distinctive body. It has a large tail and its long, flat body ends in a large blunt head. Its color of yellow and green or blue makes it immediately recognizable, even with small variations in these colors.

Dorado has clear differences between adult females and males. The male is larger and can easily reach 50 to 80 pounds and has a much flatter head compared to the female. Therefore, male Dorados are also called "bull Dorado".

Dorado can be found in our waters around the island all year round, but there are periods when it is easier to find than others. □

Source: The Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries (Santa Rosa).

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 40 Be in

1 Concede accord

6 Set one's sights

42 Plane

11 Smoker's choices

pipe 43 Polite

12 Play part chaps

13 Some

sharks

15 Unclose,

to poets

16 Bartender

on "The

Simpsons"

17 Spinning

toy

18 Cinnamon

candies

20 Debate

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21 Valuable

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22 Boxing

weapon

23 Skate

park

sights

26 Runs

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27 Green and

Longoria

28 Bee

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29 Slugger

Williams

30 Nut

34 Hot blood

35 Curved

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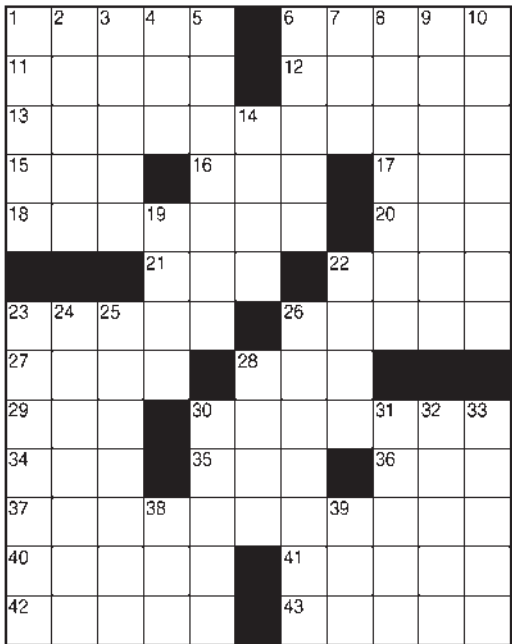
Latin

33 Centers

38 Permit

39 "Lenore"

writer



10-3

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

10-3 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

CTT E'UY SKM EQ LY. CZG

MPCM EQ YZKOSP. — UEKTC

GCUEQ

Cryptoquote: I WOULD RATHER SIT ON A PUMPKIN, AND HAVE IT ALL TO MYSELF, THAN BE CROWDED ON A VELVET CUSHION. — HENRY DAVID THOREAU

Cruise ship Schedule: Sep 16 - 30 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	CALLS
TUE	16	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
TUE	23	CARNIVAL MAGIC	09.00	22.00	C	1
		ISLAND PRINCESS	09.00	21.00	B	1
		FREEWINDS	10.00	****	E	1
WED	24	OASIS OF THE SEAS	07.00	16.00	I	1
		RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	C	1
SUN	28	GRAND PRINCESS	09.00	17.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	30	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 8 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku



Difficulty: ★★★★★

9/27

Answer to previous puzzle

2	4	6	8	9	7	3	5	1
8	7	5	1	6	3	2	4	9
1	3	9	5	4	2	7	8	6
5	6	3	9	7	1	8	2	4
9	2	1	4	3	8	5	6	7
7	8	4	6	2	5	9	1	3
4	1	7	2	5	9	6	3	8
3	5	8	7	1	6	4	9	2
6	9	2	3	8	4	1	7	5

Difficulty: ★★★★★

9/26

Scientists find new bite-resistant wetsuits can reduce shark bite injuries



This Nov. 20219 photo provided by Sam Cahir/Predapix shows a White shark biting a testing board with bite-resistant neoprene at Neptune Island Group Marine Park in Australia.

Associated Press

By PATRICK WHITTLE
Associated Press
PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — Australian scientists tested the strength of bite-resistant wetsuits by allowing sharks to chomp the materials at sea and found that the suits can help keep swimmers safe. Fatal shark bites are vanishingly rare, with less than 50 unprovoked shark bites on humans worldwide in 2024, according to the International Shark Attack File at the Florida Museum of Natural History. But increased sightings of large sharks in some parts of the world have swimmers, surfers and divers looking for new ways to stay safe. Scientists with Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia, tested four bite-resistant materials and found they all reduced the amount of damage from shark bites. They performed the work by dragging samples of the materials behind boats and allowing white and tiger sharks to bite the samples. The bites from such large sharks can still cause internal and crushing injuries, but the materials showed effectiveness beyond a

standard neoprene wetsuit, the scientists said. The research found that the bite-resistant materials "can reduce injuries sustained from shark encounters," said Flinders professor Charlie Huvneers, a member of the Southern Shark Ecology Group at Flinders and a study co-author. "Bite-resistant material do not prevent shark bites, but can reduce injuries from shark bites and can be worn by surfers and divers," Huvneers said. There were small differences between the four tested materials, but they all "reduced the amount of substantial and critical damage, which would typically be associated with severe hemorrhaging and tissue or limb loss," said Tom Clarke, a researcher with the science and engineering col-

lege at Flinders and a study co-author. Chainmail suits to resist shark bites have existed for decades, but lack in flexibility for aquatic activities like surfing and diving, the scientists said in research published in the journal Wildlife Research on Thursday. Newer wetsuits can be designed to provide flexibility as well as protection. The scientists tested the efficacy of wetsuit materials Aqua Armour, Shark Stop, ActionTX-S and Brewster. The scientists said in their paper that they found that all of the materials "offer an improved level of protection that can reduce severe wounds and blood loss, and should be considered as part of the toolbox and measures available to reduce shark-bite risk

and resulting injuries." The promise of effective shark resistant wetsuits is encouraging for people who spend a lot of time in areas where there are large sharks, said Nick Whitney, a senior scientist and chair of the Fisheries Science and Emerging Technologies Program at the New England Aquarium's Anderson Cabot Center for Ocean Life in Boston. That includes surfers and spearfishers, he said. Whitney, who was not involved in the study, said it's also encouraging that the materials are unlikely to make a person "feel invincible" and engage in risky behaviors around sharks. "I also like it because it's not relying on any impact on the shark's behavior," Whitney said. "It's basically very, very simple. In the extremely rare event that you get bitten by a shark, this material will hopefully make you bleed less than you would if you were not wearing this." □



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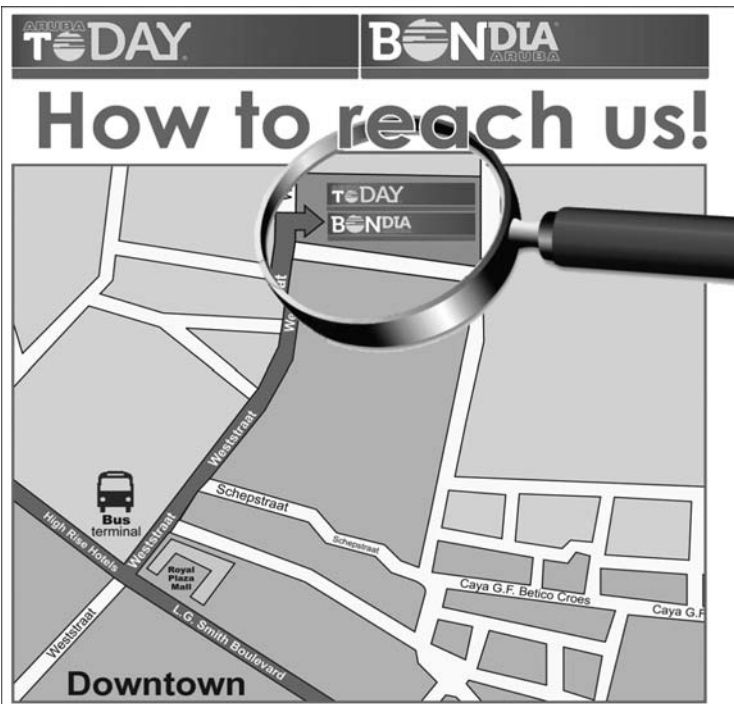
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San Nicolas
Imsan 24 hours
Tel.524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:
Trupial: Tel.583 8560
San Nicolas:
Aloe:Tel.584 4606

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

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Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

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American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

AID FOUNDATIONS

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Alcoholics Anonymous
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Narcotics Anonymous
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ARUBA TODAY NEWS

One Tech Tip: How to move your music library to another streaming platform

By **KELVIN CHAN**
AP Business Writer

LONDON (AP) — Want to switch to Apple Music because you can't find your favorite indie band on Spotify? Or maybe you're on Amazon Music but saw a new subscriber offer on Tidal that's too good to pass up. There are a variety of reasons to change music providers. But if you're thinking about it, and you're worried about losing your library of saved songs and personalized playlists, fear not: there are ways to bring all of it with you. Many music streaming services don't make it obvious — often burying instructions deep in FAQs and making the process arduous — but they do offer options to help migrate your collection. Apple made it easier last month when it quietly rolled out a new feature allowing users to import libraries from rival sites. Having Apple officially incorporate the feature might give reluctant users the confidence to move. Some pointers to help you along with your musical migration.

Importing into Apple Music
The iPhone maker recently published a help page to walk users through the process of importing libraries into Apple Music. The feature, buried in your settings, is provided by a third-party service called



Buildings are reflected behind the logo at an Apple Store, in downtown Chicago, Oct. 19, 2017

Associated Press

Songshift. It's currently available to users in Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Mexico, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States.

To use it, you'll need an Apple Music account and the latest version of iOS or the Android Apple Music app. On iPhone, go to Settings, then Apps, then Music. Tap "Transfer Music from Other Music Services" to pop up a list of various streaming services. Android users can follow a similar process. Transfers can also be done through a web browser at music.apple.com.

After choosing a service, another screen appears, prompting you to log into the target account.

Now you get a menu with options to import "All Songs and Albums" as well as "All

Playlists." If you don't want all your playlists, you can untick the ones you don't want. However, you can't pick individual songs and albums. Apple Music will then replicate your library based on your choices.

Importing my Spotify library, with about 150 playlists, went fairly smoothly, although the process took about half an hour because the service also downloaded around 1,230 songs and albums to my iPhone.

I had assumed that ticking "All Songs and Albums" meant that Apple Music would mirror the handful of music I had downloaded to my Spotify app, but it also downloaded all 63 albums in my Spotify library and the 440 songs on my Liked Songs list, which I normally listen to via streaming. If you don't

want to download everything, unselect that option before you start.

Also note that Apple says playlists "created by the music service" can't be transferred, so I couldn't bring Spotify-curated lists like This is Taylor Swift or Alternative 80s with me.

It also meant that my Liked Songs list, which Spotify generates for every user — and a list I've been adding to over the years — couldn't be replicated. Any downloaded songs were just dumped into Apple Music's library.

After this story was first published, reader Linda Feaster wrote in with a workaround: create your own playlist and then add all the tracks from the Spotify playlist. It could be tedious if there are hundreds of songs but should do the trick. If you're tempted to try out the tool, note that it probably won't work the same way with every service. Apple warns that what can be transferred is up to the source platform. Playlists made by others, such as BBC Music's The Sounds of 1994, for example, did make it over. After the move is done, you'll have 30 days to review songs that aren't available or don't have an exact match in Apple's catalog, and choose from any alternate versions.

Working with other music platforms

Most of the other big music streaming platforms offer ways to transfer your library to their site. They mostly rely on standalone third-party services that have been around for a while, are free to use, and don't need app integration to work.

Tidal and Deezer both direct users on their websites to one such service, Tune My Music, which works with popular platforms like Spotify as well as a host of lesser known sites. Amazon Music's webpage has dedicated buttons for Tune My Music and two similar services, Songshift and Soundiiz. Google also advises third-party services for YouTube Music users who want to import or export playlists, albums, artists and tracks. However, for Apple Music users who want to move to YouTube Music, the process is different. You'll have to sign in to Apple Music and request a transfer a copy of your data, then export it directly to YouTube Music.

"The transfer process may take several hours if you have many playlists," Google warns on its support page. Spotify says it's currently testing a way for users to transfer their libraries and expects to provide more details soon. Using a third-party service to migrate between platforms It was super easy to move my Spotify library to Deezer using Tune My Music. □



This photo taken Sept. 25, 2025, in Jackson, Miss. shows a blank screen on a phone while making a 911 call which resulted in a dial tone, during a 911 systems outage across Mississippi and Louisiana.

Associated Press

AT&T attributes mass 911 outages in 3 states to fiber cuts made by 'third parties'

By **SOPHIE BATES**
Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Mass 911 outages that swept across parts of Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama on Thursday afternoon were caused by fiber cuts made by "third parties," according to a statement from AT&T. Initial reports of outages were circulating around 2 p.m. in Mississippi. By 4:45 p.m., AT&T reported service had been restored in all three states.

"911 service continues to operate normally across previously affected areas in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama," the AT&T statement said. "We understand how important these services are and apologize to our customers for the inconvenience."

AT&T also said the outages were "at no time statewide," contradicting some reports from local authorities. □

Cal Raleigh makes history, but will the catcher's 60 homers be enough to beat Aaron Judge for MVP?

By NOAH TRISTER
AP Baseball Writer

The 60-homer mark remains a magical threshold in baseball. Babe Ruth was the first hitter to reach it in a season, and nobody else did until Roger Maris 34 years later.

Then it was another 37 years until Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa surpassed 60 home runs in 1998, part of a power surge in which there were six 60-homer seasons between '98 and 2001.

After that, it took over two decades before New York Yankees slugger Aaron Judge hit 62 in 2022. Now Seattle catcher Cal Raleigh has 60 this year, and fittingly the American League MVP race is coming down to him and Judge.

As of Thursday night, Raleigh (-220) was a slight favorite for the award over Judge (+165) according to BetMGM Sportsbook. But 60 homers is no guarantee of anything. In 1999, both McGwire and Sosa surpassed 60, but Chipper Jones was the National League MVP. McGwire hit a then-record 70 home runs in 1998 but lost out to Sosa, who hit 66. While Raleigh tries to add to his home run total, Judge has 51 of his own and he's closing in on the AL batting title. So the only thing that's clear about the MVP race is that everyone else is fight-



New York Yankees' Aaron Judge runs the bases after hitting a three-run home run during the second inning of a baseball game against the Chicago White Sox Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2025, in New York.

Associated Press

ing for third.

Advanced stats favor Judge

Entering Thursday's games, Judge led the American League in Baseball Reference's version of wins above replacement (bWAR) and by a pretty healthy margin of 9.3 to 7.2. The FanGraphs version (fWAR) is closer, with Judge up 9.6 to 9.1, but the New York outfielder also has significant leads in batting average (.330-.247), on-base percentage (.457-.360) and slugging percentage (.683-.594). Judge and Raleigh both

play for teams headed for the playoffs. Raleigh's role on a Seattle club that has won its division, but was also in danger of missing the postseason until recently, could weigh in his favor. But Baseball Reference has a stat for that, too: Championship win probability added (cWPA) measures how much a player's contributions have increased his team's chances of winning the World Series. Judge has the edge there too, with a cWPA of 3.8% to Raleigh's 3.0%. **How much does WAR affect the voting?**

Quite a bit, seemingly.

From 2012 to 2015, Mike Trout led all AL hitters in bWAR every season but only won the MVP once. He was beaten out twice by Miguel Cabrera and once by Josh Donaldson most contentiously in 2012 when the Triple Crown-winning Cabrera beat out Trout despite the latter's 10.5-7.1 advantage in WAR.

But since 2016 across both leagues and not counting the pandemic-shortened 2020 campaign only five of 16 MVP winners failed to lead his league in bWAR.

Those were:

— Christian Yelich in 2018 was fourth in the NL in bWAR, but the only three players ahead of him were pitchers, who often face an uphill climb in MVP voting.

— In 2019, Trout somewhat ironically beat out Alex Bregman despite a bWAR deficit of 8.9-7.9.

— In 2021, Bryce Harper (5.9 bWAR) won MVP honors in a year pitcher Zack Wheeler led the NL in bWAR. Juan Soto had 7.3 bWAR, but his Washington Nationals lost 97 games.

— In 2022, Paul Goldschmidt (7.7) beat out Manny Machado (6.8) and Nolan Arenado (7.9) in the MVP race. Pitcher Sandy Alcantara (8.0) led the NL in bWAR.

— In 2023, Ronald Acuña Jr. (8.4) beat out Mookie Betts (8.6) for NL MVP.

It's Acuña's MVP that might be most analogous to Raleigh's bid this year. Acuña in 2023 had a unique statistical accomplishment on his side he'd become the first player to reach 40 homers and 70 steals in the same season.

Raleigh makes history

The question for Raleigh is whether Judge's advantage in many key stats is small enough that more subjective factors can tip the race to the Seattle slugger. □

Ohtani tops MLB jersey sales for 3rd straight season. Skenes and Raleigh break into top 20

NEW YORK (AP) — Shohei Ohtani topped Major League Baseball's jersey sales for the third straight year heading into the end of the regular season as Paul Skenes and Cal Raleigh entered the top 20.

MLB's top seven remained unchanged from its listing at the All-Star break. Ohtani, the Los Angeles Dodgers' two-way star, was followed by New York Yankees outfielder Aaron Judge, Dodgers first baseman Freddie Freeman and shortstop Mookie Betts, New York Mets shortstop Francisco Lindor and outfielder Juan Soto, and San Francisco third baseman Rafael Devers. Ohtani is just the fourth player to lead in three consecutive years after Derek Jeter (2010-12), Judge (2017-19) and Betts (2020-22). MLB started keeping track of sales in 2010. Skenes, set to win the NL ERA

title in his second season with Pittsburgh, was 18th. Raleigh, a Seattle catcher who entered Friday leading the major leagues with 60 home runs, was 20th. Both failed to make the top 20 list at the All-Star break.

Also finishing among the top 20 for the first time were Boston outfielder Jarren Duran at 13th and Chicago Cubs outfielder Pete Crow-Armstrong at 16th.

Philadelphia first baseman Bryce Harper moved up two slots to eighth, dropping Houston second baseman Jose Altuve and San Diego outfielder Fernando Tatis Jr. each down one.

Atlanta outfielder Ronald Acuña Jr. was 11th, followed by Dodgers pitcher Clayton Kershaw, who plans to retire after the postseason and finished among the top 20 for the 12th time. □



Los Angeles Dodgers' Shohei Ohtani gestures after hitting a home run against the Arizona Diamondbacks during the fourth inning of a baseball game Thursday, Sept. 25, 2025, in Phoenix.

Associated Press

Wilks refutes Mayfield's comment that the ex-Panthers interim coach was to blame for his release

By DENNIS WASZAK Jr.
AP Pro Football Writer
FLORHAM PARK, N.J. (AP) — Steve Wilks jabbed back at Baker Mayfield a few days after the Tampa Bay Buccaneers quarterback said a win over the New York Jets was a bit "personal." Mayfield was asked after the Buccaneers' 29-27 victory Sunday at Tampa Bay how big it was to give coach Todd Bowles a win over the team for which he coached from 2015-18. "I loved it. It was also their defensive coordinator (who) cut me in Carolina," Mayfield said, referring to Wilks, now the Jets' defensive coordinator who was the Panthers' interim head coach in 2022. "So, a lot of stuff was personal today." In his first news conference since Mayfield's comments, Wilks praised the quarterback on Friday before adding his own swipe to try to set the record straight. "A lot of respect for Baker, tremendous football player, and he's doing a hell of a job with those guys down there," Wilks said. "Nothing really to say beyond that. I don't know how long you've been doing this, but



New York Jets defensive coordinator Steve Wilks answers questions from media at the NFL football team's minicamp, Wednesday, June 11, 2025, in Florham Park, N.J.

Associated Press

I'm sure you're quite educated on it: I don't really think an interim coach has that much authority over personnel. "If that's the case, I would have never gotten rid of our best player, Christian McCaffrey." Wilks stepped in as the Panthers' interim coach after Matt Rhule was fired amid

a 1-4 start. McCaffrey was traded to San Francisco 10 days later. Mayfield, who struggled with consistency early that season, was later replaced as the starter by P.J. Walker and then Sam Darnold and then as the primary backup by Walker. "Looking at the body of work the last couple of weeks," Wilks said at the

time, "I felt P.J. has been productive when he was in there." Mayfield requested to be released by Carolina, which the team granted on Dec. 5. Mayfield was claimed off waivers by the Los Angeles Rams the next day. Mayfield went on to rejuvenate his career dur-

ing a five-game stint with the Rams before signing in March 2023 with the Buccaneers, with whom he has become one of the league's top performing quarterbacks and a Pro Bowl selection the last two seasons. Meanwhile, Wilks wasn't retained by the Panthers that offseason and served as San Francisco's defensive coordinator in 2023 and then worked as a volunteer advisor at Charlotte last year. He was hired by Aaron Glenn in January to be on his Jets coaching staff. Wilks' defense has had an up-and-down first three games as it prepares to face the Dolphins in Miami on Monday night without one of its top playmakers in linebacker Quincy Williams, who's on injured reserve with a shoulder injury. New York enters ranked 22nd in total yards allowed, 15th in passing defense and 23rd in yards rushing allowed. "One of the things that we have to do defensively, as you've seen we've done a lot of great things throughout these first three weeks, but we've got to find a way to finish," Wilks said. □

No. 1 Scottie Scheffler on the wrong end of another Ryder Cup blowout loss as U.S. falls behind

By BRIAN MAHONEY
AP Sports Writer
FARMINGDALE, N.Y. (AP) — By himself, Scottie Scheffler is winning more often than anyone in golf. In Ryder Cup foursomes matches, he keeps on losing — and losing badly. Scheffler and Russell Henley were defeated 5 and 3 by Europe's Matt Fitzpatrick and Ludvig Åberg on Friday, the top-ranked Scheffler's third blowout loss in three career foursome matches in the Ryder Cup. Two years after being left in tears when Åberg and Viktor Hovland routed Scheffler and Brooks Koepka 9 and 7 in Rome in the shortest foursomes match in Ryder Cup history, Scheffler watched another European duo pile up birdies against his squad

en route to a 3-1 lead after the morning session. Fitzpatrick and Åberg made seven of them in 15 holes. By the time Scheffler and Henley made their

second, they were already 5 down. "We just didn't hole enough putts early," Scheffler said. "We had some chances. I think the putts just didn't

fall. But overall, the guys we played, they played a really good round, and go back out this afternoon and see what we can do." Scheffler was back out for the afternoon session fourball matches with U.S. Open champion J.J. Spaun. Henley did not play in the afternoon. Scheffler has won six times this year, four more than anyone else on the PGA Tour, with two major championships. But he has trailed by at least four holes in all three of his Ryder Cup foursomes matches. U.S. captain Keegan Bradley sent Scheffler and Henley out second, after Bryson DeChambeau and Justin Thomas. While the leadoff duo was the high-profile match of the morning, the

one after might've appeared to be the best U.S. team. Henley is No. 3 in the rankings, and he and Scheffler went 2-1 together last year in the Presidents Cup in Montreal. Scheffler pumped his fist after rolling in a birdie putt on No. 2 to quickly tie the match after Fitzpatrick and Åberg had won the opener, but there wouldn't be much more to celebrate for the Americans. The Europeans ran off three straight birdies to win Nos. 4-6 to build a 3-up lead that ballooned to 5 up. Scheffler and Henley did make consecutive birdies on 13 and 14, but the match ended on the next hole when they made bogey.



Europe's Ludvig Åberg greets United States' Scottie Scheffler after Europe won on the 15th hole at Bethpage Black golf course during the Ryder Cup golf tournament, Friday, Sept. 26, 2025, in Farmingdale, N.Y.

Associated Press